



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

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Fifth District

April 15, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE TOPANGA CREEK WATERSHED
HYDROLOGY ANALYSIS AND WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT
THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT (3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve and instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the attached cooperative agreement with the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains to provide for a Hydrologic Analysis and Water Quality Study for the Topanga Creek Watershed.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended action will assist the County in developing an integrated management approach to the Topanga Creek watershed that will protect the existing habitat, properties and infrastructure; help identify sources of pollution in the watershed; and provide guidelines, including voluntary citizen involvement, to improve the quality of the watershed.

On April 3, 2001, your Board adopted a motion instructing the CAO to submit a priority list of projects that improve coastal resources to the California Resources Agency for funding consideration pursuant to the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP). The U.S. Secretary of Commerce approved the State's CIAP funding request, which included three County projects. The Topanga Creek Watershed Hydrology Analysis and Water Quality Assessment

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(Study) was among the three projects.

The Study will provide hydrology analysis and water quality study for the Topanga Creek Watershed that will help address stormwater runoff and erosion and sedimentation issues. On May 14, 2002, your Board authorized this office to accept and execute the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grant award and the Department of Public Works to implement the Study. Under the proposed agreement between the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains (RCD) and the County (Cooperative Agreement), the Study will be conducted by the RCD with monitoring by the Flood Control District. The Chief Administrative Office will administer the grant funds awarded by NOAA to the County in an amount not to exceed \$185,000.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Awarding this cooperative agreement will meet the County Strategic Plan Goals of collaborating across functional and jurisdictional boundaries by coordinating efforts between County agencies and other agencies to integrate watershed management activities that affect the watershed's natural resources and water quality.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County's General Fund. The total cost estimate of the Study is estimated at \$325,980. Financing for the study and County services under the Cooperative Agreement is available from the \$185,000 NOAA grant. County services are estimated to cost \$2,400. Sufficient appropriation is available in the 2002-03 Project and Facility Development budget to support the NOAA grant. The RCD will provide the remaining \$140,980 in funding for the project.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

A cooperative agreement approved as to form by County Counsel, will be used.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

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This section does not apply to this cooperative agreement.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

It is recommended to enter into the cooperative agreement with RCD. RCD has significant expertise in this area of work. RCD will provide funding for the project.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

None

CONCLUSION

Please return one approved copy to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division, and to the Department of Public Works, Watershed Management Division.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

DEN:SNY
DJT:LHB:mdc

Attachment

cc: County Counsel
Department of Public Works-Watershed Management (Ross)